

Dear FCC

I am writing to voice my concern that Proceeding #05-311 will pave the way for elimination of Public, Educational and Governmental ("PEG") Access channels such as the one where I am a volunteer producer, Methuen Community television. I believe that, in order to protect PEG channels and facilities, we must ensure that local municipalities have the authority to require local video franchising.

- PEG TV channels reflect the diversity of local communities. They provide noncommercial programming for seniors, for the disabled, for youth, multi-lingual programming for ethnic communities, and others that are often neglected by the commercial media.
- In many communities, PEG provides the only coverage of local government. Eliminating PEG will reduce the opportunity for citizens to stay informed about local government issues.
- In most communities, the noncommercial PEG TV channels deliver more original locally produced shows than all the commercial television stations combined. We need to protect localism in the media.
- PEG and local public access centers provide an important avenue for students pursuing a career in the communications field to gain experience through internships and the training offered by these facilities.
- PEG and local public access centers are the only means by which individuals and non-profit organizations can freely or affordably access the tools and training to produce their own programming and to express their own point-of-view through the media.

Thank you for your attention and consideration.

Albert E. Grant, Jr.
Producer, MCTV